

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY FIRE INVESTIGATION TASK FORCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Brown County Fire Investigation Task Force was held on December 19, 2013, at 9:00 a.m., at the Brown County Sheriff's Office, 2684 Development Drive, Green Bay, WI.

Present: Ed Janke, Brad Muller, Larry Mours, Todd Delain, David Lasee, Mike Niefert, Joe Gabe

Excused: Eric Dunning

Item #1. Adoption of Agenda.

Motion was made by Muller and seconded by Delain to adopt the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Item #2. Review Minutes of Previous Meeting.

Motion was made by Delain and seconded by Mours to approve the minutes from September 19, 2013. **Motion carried.**

Item #3. Report of Monthly Activities of the Fire Investigation Unit.

Gabe reported that the Fire Investigation Unit was called out to the following fires since the last meeting:

11-06-13 3107 Lost Dauphin Rd., Lawrence (house/accidental)

12-03-13 4430 Townline Rd., Denmark (house/undetermined)

12-12-13 155 Williams St., Pulaski (garage/arson/juvenile)

Item #4. Report of General Membership President.

The last meeting was held on December 5, 2013. There was discussion about issues with showing up to fires and who is in charge. A reminder was given that non-criminal investigations are to be turned in to the respective fire department and criminal investigations are to be turned in to the respective police jurisdiction. Delain noted that if there is follow-up investigation to be done after a fire that occurred in the County, a fire investigator from the Brown County Sheriff's Office will be assigned to conduct the follow-up.

Item #5. Financial Report.

There is \$9,371.44 remaining in the budget this year. Need to ask Public Safety Committee if we can carry over remaining balance to be used for purchase of new vehicle. Some new T3 digital cameras will be purchased from the remaining funds.

Item #6. Old Business.

A. Disposition of Case Proceedings.

Gabe reported that a CODIS hit was received reference the 2007 Humboldt church fire. The suspect is in prison. However, the statute of limitations may have expired. Will check with the feds to see if they might look into it. In reference to the CTH ZZ house fire, the lab will check the stove to see if it was the cause of the fire. The Memorial Drive apartment fire was started by cigarette butts in a flower pot. In the Ricky Drive fire, it was learned that the 7-year-old child who resides there caused the fire and was also involved in a house fire four years ago on Oak Street.

Item #7. New Business.

A. Approval Vote on New Fire Investigators.

Ten applicants interviewed for open fire investigator positions. The interview board recommended Matt Omdahl and Brandon Dhuey from the Brown County Sheriff's Office, Karl Linsmeier from Green Bay Metro Fire, and Jim Stupka from De Pere Fire. However, Stupka had since stated he was no longer interested. After discussion, motion was made by Delain and seconded by Muller to recommend Kyle Lauf from Bellevue Fire as the fourth investigator. **Motion carried.** Joseph Patenaude from the Brown County Sheriff's Office and Aaron Anderson from Green Bay Metro Fire submitted applications for intern positions. Motion was made by Janke and seconded by Muller to approve all the above-mentioned applicants for their respective positions. **Motion carried.** It was noted that Lance Catalano resigned from the Task Force and Greg Steenbock moved from intern to investigator.

B. Future Direction of the Fire Investigation Task Force.

This topic has been taken care of.

Item #8. Report of Juvenile Firesetter Program Coordinator.

Nieft reported that Nick Craig had two juvenile educational interviews—no referrals.

Item #9. Other Matters.

It was suggested that letters be sent to newly approved investigators/interns. They will need to be given orientation on equipment.

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Item #10. Set Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting.

The next meeting was set for March 20, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. at the Brown County Sheriff's Office. However, it was later changed to April 3, 2014.

Item #11. Adjourn.

Motion made by Mours and seconded by Muller to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Laurent
Recording Secretary